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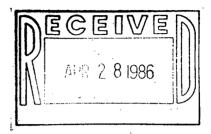
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Commonwealth Energy System

Post Office Box 190 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139 Telephone (617) 864-3100

April 24, 1986

Mr. Gregory A. Roscoe U.S. Environmental Protection Agency P.O. Box 3254 Reston, Virginia 22090



Dear Mr. Roscoe:

The Cannons Engineering site in Bridgewater, Massachusetts

This letter is in response to EPA's letter of March 28, 1986 addressed to Mr. Gerald E. Anderson, President of Commonwealth Energy System. The respondent is Commonwealth Energy System, which was formerly known as New England Gas and Electric Association. This letter is sent in response to EPA's allegations concerning "Facility: New England Gas and Electric System, 675 Massachusetts Avenue, P.O. Box 190, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139", as set forth in Mr. Merrill S. Hohman's letter of March 28, 1986.

As the enclosed Information Request Addendum shows, there has never been any relationship, business dealing, contract, or other transaction whatsoever between Commonwealth Energy System or New England Gas and Electric Association ("the System") and any of the persons or entities set forth in Attachment B to EPA's letter. The System, although it is the parent company of certain electric utility companies which may or may not have done business with some of the listed companies, is not an operating company. It simply does not and has not done any business with the listed companies nor would it have any It does business with financial institutions, brokerage houses, its shareholders and others, but does not own or lease offices, electric equipment, petroleum storage facilities, or the like. It has been inadvertently named, we believe.

It is likely that EPA has added the System to its list of potentially responsible parties for one of two reasons: 1.) because the name "New England Gas and Electric System" (signifying only that the subsidiary companies are part of the System) appears on the cancelled checks of the subsidiary companies of the System that did transact business with Cannons (responses from those companies have been or are now being sent to EPA) or 2.) because EPA may possess a copy of the one check (written in error and immediately cancelled,) which was ever written by the System to Cannons. This check, dated January 25, 1974, was cancelled before it was forwarded to Cannons as it was written on the

wrong company. A clerk typed a check on a blank System check, instead of on a blank New Bedford Gas and Edison Light Company check. The mistake was realized in time, and the check was replaced by a check of identical amount written on the company which actually did business with Cannons. Copies of all checks evidencing the above are enclosed for your information.

As it is certain that neither Commonwealth Energy System nor New England Gas and Electric Association ever did business in any way with the listed companies, the System respectfully declines to participate in the activities involving Cannons. We believe that upon a review of the record you will concur that such is the case, and we request that upon review and concurrence with the enclosed that you send to me a letter acknowledging the fact that the System was named in error and that it is not a PRP. Should you have any questions concerning the enclosed, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

Michael P. Sullivan

Vice President, Secretary and

General Attorney

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss

April 24, 1986

I, Michael P. Sullivan, Vice President, Secretary and General Attorney of Commonwealth Energy System do hereby state that a diligent record search and interviewing process has been made with respect to the business affairs of Commonwealth Energy System which in any way may relate to chemical use and/or waste disposal practices of Commonwealth Energy System between 1974 and the present, and that Commonwealth Energy System has had no relationship whatsoever with any of the persons or entities named in Attachment B to EPA's letters involving Cannons Engineering et al. Any and all information responsive to EPA's Information Request is being forwarded to EPA and all such information resulting from such search and interviews is complete and accurate.

COMMONWEALTH ENERGY SYSTEM

Michael P. Sullivan

Vice President, Secretary and

General Attorney

Sworn to before me this $2^{\frac{1}{4}}$

24th

day of April, 1986

Richard J. Morrison

Notary Public

My commission expires: October 9, 1992

INFORMATION REQUEST CANNON'S ENGINEERING CORPORATION ET AL

- I. Commonwealth Energy System
- 11. N/A
- III. Michael P. Sullivan, 675 Massachusetts Avenue, P.O. Box 190, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02139
- IV. Richard J. Morrison, 675 Massachusetts Avenue, P.O. Box 190, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02139, Irving X. Gorman, 675 Massachusetts Avenue, P.O. Box 190, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02139, Esther A. Reppucci, 675 Massachusetts Avenue, P.O. Box 190, Cambridge, MA 02139, Philip A. Morrow, 2421 Cranberry Highway, Wareham, Massachusetts, 02571
- V. The files of the System companies
- VI. No transactions whatsoever
- VII. No substances of any sort at any time at any location

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Post Office Box 190 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139-0190



MR GREGORY A ROSCOE
US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
PO BOX 3254
RESTON VA 22090